

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

IN THE CLAIMS

1-13 (canceled).

14. (currently amended) A racket comprising:
a frame having a handle defining a longitudinal
axis;

a head connected to the handle and defining a
racket face, wherein the head has parallel first and
second transversal sides and parallel first and second
longitudinal sides, wherein the first and second
transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal
sides are firmly connected together at their ends such
that each of the sides is substantially inflexible in
relation to the other sides;

a plurality of transversal strings extending
between the first and second longitudinal sides and
substantially covering the racket face, wherein the
transversal strings are of substantially identical
length, wherein the transversal strings run essentially
parallel to each other, wherein the transversal strings
are generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, and
wherein at least three of the transversal strings are
strung from a first single string; and,

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

a plurality of longitudinal strings extending between the first and second transversal sides and substantially covering the racket face, wherein the longitudinal strings are of substantially identical length, wherein the longitudinal strings run essentially parallel to each other, wherein the longitudinal strings are generally parallel to the longitudinal axis, and wherein at least three of the longitudinal strings are strung from a second single string,

wherein the transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are of unequal length, and wherein the tension and/or mass values of the transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are selected so that the vibrational frequencies of the transversal and longitudinal strings are equal.

15. (previously presented) The racket of claim 14 wherein the head and the racket face are rectangular shaped.

16. (previously presented) The racket of claim 14 wherein at least a pair of the first and second transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal sides curve slightly.

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

17. (previously presented) The racket of claim 16 wherein the curved sides have a curvature such that the string tension of the strings between the curved sides brings the curved sides back to a substantially straight and parallel position.

18. (previously presented) The racket of claim 14 wherein the distances between all intersection points of the strings are equal.

19. (previously presented) The racket of claim 14 wherein the space between the transversal strings varies, and wherein the space between the longitudinal strings varies.

20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended) A racket comprising:
a frame having a handle defining a longitudinal axis;

a head connected to the handle and defining a racket face, wherein the head has parallel first and second transversal sides and parallel first and second

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

longitudinal sides, and wherein the first and second transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal sides are firmly connected together at their ends such that each of the sides is substantially inflexible in relation to the other sides;

a plurality of transversal strings extending between the first and second longitudinal sides and substantially covering the racket face, wherein the transversal strings are of substantially identical length, wherein the transversal strings run essentially parallel to each other, and wherein the transversal strings are generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis; and,

a plurality of longitudinal strings extending between the first and second transversal sides and substantially covering the racket face, wherein the longitudinal strings are of substantially identical length, wherein the longitudinal strings run essentially parallel to each other, wherein the longitudinal strings are generally parallel to the longitudinal axis, and wherein at least three of the longitudinal strings and at least three of the transversal strings are strung from a single string;

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

wherein the transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are of unequal length, and wherein the tension and/or mass values of the transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are selected so that the vibrational frequencies of the transversal and longitudinal strings are equal.

22. (previously presented) The racket of claim 21 wherein the head and the racket face are rectangular shaped.

23. (previously presented) The racket of claim 21 wherein at least a pair of the first and second transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal sides curve slightly.

24. (previously presented) The racket of claim 23 wherein the curved sides have a curvature such that the string tension of the strings between the curved sides brings the curved sides back to a substantially straight and parallel position.

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

25. (previously presented) The racket of claim 21 wherein the distances between all intersection points of the strings are equal.

26. (previously presented) The racket of claim 21 wherein the space between the transversal strings varies, and wherein the space between the longitudinal strings varies.

27. (canceled).

28. (currently amended) A racket comprising:
a frame having a handle defining a longitudinal axis;

a head connected to the handle, wherein the head has parallel first and second transversal sides and parallel first and second longitudinal sides, wherein the first and second transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal sides has holes therethrough and are firmly connected together at their ends such that each of the sides is substantially inflexible in relation to the other sides;

a plurality of transversal strings being strung through the holes in the first and second longitudinal

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

sides, wherein the transversal strings are of substantially identical length, wherein the transversal strings run essentially parallel to each other, and wherein the transversal strings are generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis; and,

a plurality of longitudinal strings being strung through the holes in the first and second transversal sides, wherein the longitudinal strings are of substantially identical length, wherein the longitudinal strings run essentially parallel to each other, wherein the longitudinal strings are generally parallel to the longitudinal axis, and wherein the transversal and longitudinal strings are secured to the frame by at least one knot,

wherein the transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are of unequal length, and wherein the tension and/or mass values of the transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are selected so that the vibrational frequencies of the transversal and longitudinal strings are equal.

29. (previously presented) The racket of claim 28 wherein the head has a racket face covered by

Application Serial
No. 09/971,830

the longitudinal and transversal strings, and wherein the head and the racket face are rectangular shaped.

30. (previously presented) The racket of claim 28 wherein at least a pair of the first and second transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal sides curve slightly.

31. (previously presented) The racket of claim 30 wherein the curved sides have a curvature such that the string tension of the strings between the curved sides brings the curved sides back to a substantially straight and parallel position.

32. (previously presented) The racket of claim 28 wherein the distances between all intersection points of the strings are equal.

33. (previously presented) The racket of claim 28 wherein the space between the transversal strings varies, and wherein the space between the longitudinal strings varies.

34. (canceled).